

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- A method for network multiplexing and tunneling includes opening a single Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) connection between at least two endpoints in the network, establishing a Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) over the opened Transmission
- 5 Control Protocol (TCP) connection, mutually authenticating each of the endpoints of the SSL TCP connection, and multiplexing other connections through the secure connection once both of the endpoints have been authenticated.

"Express Mail" mailing label number **EL3079392324 S**
Date of Deposit **March 2, 1999**
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail" service under 39 CFR 1.5000 the date indicated above and is addressed to:
Patent Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20590.
Adrienne M. Baird
(Printed name)
Adrienne M. Baird
(Signature)